

February 4th, 2022

Happy Friday, Vols!

and welcome to The Green Leaf.



Campus Race to Zero Waste

To encourage recycling rates on campus, we host a Campus Race to Zero Waste Challenge between all of the Residence Halls. Each hall competes weekly to see which hall has the highest recycling rate per resident and which hall can accrue the most participation points!

To submit points and learn more, click here!

Stakeholder Meeting - Composting on Campus

The Office of Sustainability is inviting you to a scheduled stakeholder meeting regarding composting on the UTK campus. Composting services are growing on campus and are a large part of how we help reduce the overall landfill footprint from UTK. In FY'22 so far, we have already surpassed our composting totals from previous years, and are projected to compost over 1,000 tons of material. With this growth in mind, UTK has a lot of work ahead of it to update infrastructure, expand composting services and adopt policies that support this growth.

This stakeholder process is meant to engage members from all over our campus community to better understand needs, barriers, motivations, and all factors regarding composting on our beautiful campus. If you are receiving this, it means we have identified your voice as one we find important and wanted to ensure that you would be involved in this process. Please additionally feel free to pass this invitation along to other members in your department who should be engaged, we want to hear from everyone. Composting is vital for our campus to reduce its waste and hit the 50% diversion from landfills by 2030 commitment.

This meeting will take place on February 22nd, 2022 at 10 am. If you would like to join us, please <u>register here</u>. For anyone that is unable to attend but would still like to provide input, please fill out our survey through <u>this link</u>.

We thank you for your time and look forward to hearing from you! Please direct any questions to sustainability@utk.edu.



Follow us on LinkedIn!

The Office Sustainability is now on LinkedIn!

Make sure to follow us, click <u>here</u> to go to our page!

The Free Store

The Free Store will be opening its permanent location this semester! The Free Store's permanent location will have clothes, shoes, housewares, school supplies, and hygiene products available for UT students, faculty, and staff! Stay tuned for the grand opening!



Green Fee Proposals

Do you have an idea that would make our campus more sustainable?

You can receive funding for your sustainability-related project by submitting a proposal! Unsure about what kind of proposal to submit? You can also submit a rough draft and work with someone in the Office of Sustainability on creating a full proposal.



Thice of Sustainability of Creating a full proposal.

Click here for more details!

Green Office Program

Are you a faculty or staff member looking for ways to make your office more sustainable? Get certified through our brand new Green Office



Program! We've got lots of resources that will make greening your office easy and fun.

Click here to learn more or DM us with any questions!

The Green Office Program engages faculty and staff in a fun certification program aimed to help offices

contribute to the university's goals of achieving carbon neutrality by 2061 and 50% waste diversion by 2030.



Switch Your Thinking

As the colder months approach, the Office of Sustainability encourages you to **Switch Your Thinking** with us! On a campus this size, our energy consumption is one of the largest ways we impact the environment. On average in November, UTK uses 16,482,221.3 kWh of electricity and 1,335,115.5 therms of gas. November energy consumption is equivalent to 18,745 metric tons of CO2 emissions.

It's the same amount of emissions that you would get if you drove an average passenger vehicle for 47,109,284 miles (you could drive to the moon and back almost 100 times!).

Click here to learn more about what you can do!

Do you need volunteer hours?

Come hang out with passionate, like-minded individuals at one of our various sites! From the Compost Facility to the Recycling Warehouse, we always need volunteers!



If you're looking to help capture recycling on campus, we can always use a helping hand during Zero Waste Gamedays. Learn more about ALL of our volunteer opportunities here!

Nominate a Sustainability Champion

The Sustainability Champion is an award given monthly that recognizes a member of UT's faculty, staff, or student body who exemplifies what it means to Make Orange Green through their environmental stewardship, leadership, and/or activism.

Click the button below to nominate someone deserving!

Sustainability Champion Nomination Form

...and that's all for this month! Have a safe and sustainable February!













Sustainability.utk.edu

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